in his recent visit to India told that US is willing to jointly develop and produce futuristic weapon systems with India;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) what was the response of Government;

(d) whether any decision has been taken in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Director, Defence security Cooperation Agency of the United States Department of Defence, Lt. Gen Jeffery Kohler visited India on April 20-21, 2005, to convey the decision of the United States (US) administration to respond to an Indian Request for Information (RFI) for procurement of a Medium Multi-Role Combat Aircraft for the Indian Air Force. Lt. Gen Kohler informed the Government that the US Administration has advised the manufactures of the F-16 and the F-18 aircraft to participate in the Request For Proposal (RFP) for the aircraft when issued by the Government of India. He also conveyed US readiness to enter into a defence supply, co-production and Research and Development relationship in areas of advanced defence technologies.

(b) No specific proposals were made.

(c) The Government welcome the US willingness to collaborate with India in the supply, production, transfer of technology and joint research and development of defence equipment in accordance with rules, regulations and procedures of the Government of India on eventually acceptable terms and conditions.

(d) and (e) No, Sir.

Terrorist camps in PoK

†2392. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the number of terrorists in Pak occupied Kashmir camps;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government are also aware of the fact that terrorist training camps are running in Rak occupied Kashmir and if so, the number of such Camps; and

(c) whether Government have any information that terrorist are keen to infiltrate from every nook and corner of Kashmir and if so, the steps taken by Government to foil their intention and attempt for entry?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) It is estimated that there are about 2000-2500 terrorists at various training camps and launching pads in Pakistan Pakistan occupied Kashmir.

(b) About 27 militant training camps are reported to be active in Pakistan occupied Kashmir.

(c) A large number of terrorists have been observed close to the Line of Control (LoC) waiting to infiltrate. The Government has adopted a multi- pronged approach to contain cross border infiltration. The overall counter infiltration measures deployed by the Army include a multi-tiered arrangement on the LoC along with fencing, improved intelligence, operational coordination and relentless operations in the hinterland so as to ensure that infiltration is minimized and violence levels in the State of Jammu and Kashmir kept under check.

Upgradation of Sukhoi-30 aircraft

2393. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to upgrade Sukhoi -30 aircraft with latest avionics and weapons;

(b) if so, the year-wise details of the number of aircraft proposed to be upgraded in the coming years;

(c) whether any negotiation has been held with the original vendor; and

(d) the details of the cost of Sukhoi-30 upgradation?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Upgrade of Sukhoi-30 aircraft is planned from the year 2005 onwards. The final cost of upgrade will be known after the negotiations are completed.